

WEALTHY WOMEN HIS VICTIMS.

His Highness Prince Charles
Looz-et-Coswarem a Born
Swindler.

He Courted Two Rich American
Widows and Secured Large
Sums from Them.

Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Coleman Saved
from Marrying the Prince by
Their Prudent Friends.

MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY INSANE

The Only Plea That Prevented His High-
ness from "Doing Time" for Fraud.
How He Duped His Many
Creditors.

His Serene Highness Prince Charles Looz-et-Coswarem, who has just been acquitted at Brussels on the plea of insanity after a trial for frauds amounting to nearly \$1,000,000, possesses a more than ordinary interest for people on this side of the water, in consequence of the fact that two of his principal victims were well-known American ladies, extremely wealthy widows of mature years, the one Mrs. Bloomfield Moore, of Philadelphia, the other the relict of the millionaire cattle king and meat magnate Coleman, of Chicago, both of whom were on the point of conferring upon him their fortune in return for his title when fortunately warned in the very nick of time.

The Prince is a scion of that ancient and illustrious family which, dating back to the Crusades, formerly exercised sovereign sway over the principality of Rhenish-Weilbach, and is a grandson on his mother's side of that Manuel Godoy, Prince of the Peace, the infamous favorite of King Charles IV. of Spain who betrayed his royal master and mistress to Napoleon, and was subsequently torn to pieces by a Madrid mob.

The Prince's father died in a lunatic asylum at Paris without leaving any fortune, and, as his grandfather, the old Duke of Looz-Coswarem, is far richer in titles and dignities than in money or estates, the young Prince, now aged thirty-five, was obliged to seek his own fortune, which he endeavored to accomplish through a rich marriage. With this object in view, he for a time haunted the American colony in Paris, becoming intimate with the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, who was also heirless-hunting.

WANTED A LARGE SUM.
Among those whose acquaintance he formed was Mrs. Bloomfield Moore, of Philadelphia, and it seems that, in spite of the disparity in age, he being under thirty at the time and she considerably more than double that age, she consented to receive his addresses, as well as the appeal for her hand, presented in his name by his grandfather and grandmother, the Duke and Duchess of Looz-Coswarem. Mrs. Moore broke off the engagement on the very eve of the marriage, when she discovered that the Prince insisted not only on her settling upon him an annuity of \$300,000, but that she should turn over to him on the wedding day (and in addition to the money she had already advanced) a further sum of \$200,000, by way of marriage portion with a view of enabling him to settle all his debts and liabilities.

According to the story told by the old Duke, Mrs. Moore was ready enough to pay the annuity, but not the lump sum, and she became so offended at the pressure which the Prince sought to exercise upon her in the matter that she abruptly broke off the match. The Prince, however, managed to keep the news of the rupture a secret for a time, and on the strength of his alleged engagement to Mrs. Moore, whose wealth is known in London and Paris, succeeded in raising a large sum of money in a manner that can only be described as criminal.

The Prince's next matrimonial venture was with the daughter of the Count de Paris, at the time Councillor of the Portuguese Embassy at Paris and now Viceroy of King Carlos at Buenos Ayres. It seems that there was a mutual misunderstanding as to the score of the respective financial position of son-in-law and father-in-law, Count Paris imagining the Prince to be as wealthy as his name was illustrious, while the Prince, on the other hand, was equally confident that the Count was fully in a position to carry out his promise of turning over 1,000,000 francs to the young couple in the interval between the civil marriage and the religious ceremony.

THE PRINCE BACKED OUT.

When, however, his Portuguese Excellency failed to come up to time, the Prince declined to go through the religious ceremony, and immediately instituted proceedings against the bride to have the civil union annulled on the ground that he had been duped into becoming a party thereto by deliberately fraudulent pretences.

The courts gave a verdict in his favor, dissolving the marriage; and inasmuch as this practically implied an acknowledgment by the tribunals of France that the Count had been guilty of dishonesty in the matter, the Portuguese Government had no alternative but to transfer him to another port.

The third matrimonial adventure of Prince Looz-et-Coswarem was in connection with a Mrs. Coleman, of Chicago, the widow of an enormously wealthy meat packer who in 1888 retired from business and took up his residence with his wife and son at Paris in the Rue Joubert, where he died a year later. The marriage between the Prince and the widow would have taken place had not the sudden death of the old Duchess, his grandmother, rendered a postponement of the wedding necessary and the delay thus caused enemies of the Prince, who was very comely and only forty-two, being in the knowledge of the various circumstances of her late husband's former attempts to marry for money, the result being that she in turn at once broke off the match after having advanced him large sums.

The Prince became desperate, and, having made the acquaintance of Paul Demidoff, a widow, nee Princess Troubetzkoi, daughter of the famous Russian Liza Troubetzkoi and mother of young Elia Demidoff (whose infatuation shortly after his marriage for the French demi-mondaine Liane de Pougy led the late Czar to cause the latter to be expelled from Russia by the police), at once commenced to pass himself everywhere as her fiancé, although it does not appear that the Princess ever gave him the slightest encouragement, either

verbally or in writing. The name of Demidoff, however, is one to conjure with in Europe, being regarded as synonymous with inexhaustible wealth, and by a skilful use of her portraits, as well as by forged letters bearing what purported to be her signature, he found a number of credulous people who believed in the good faith of the match and advanced him all the money he wanted.

PLAYED A JOKE ON HIS CREDITORS.
It was only when his financial backers became impatient and even suspicious of fraud that he travelled over to London on the ground that the marriage would have to take place there because of the opposition to the match by the late Emperor Alexander of Russia. He had the inconceivable audacity to invite all his financial



John Mulster.

He is one of New York's brave firemen. At the peril of his own life he assisted in saving the lives of several persons who were in the actors' boarding house, No. 77 East Tenth street, when it burned Saturday night.

backers to the wedding, as well as a number of his largest and most important creditors. They all travelled over from the Continent, crossing the Channel in a gale and looking forward to meeting the Prince and his Missus bride at the Victoria Hotel, where the Prince had given them rendezvous on the wedding day, intimating that each one of them would find under the napkin at the wedding breakfast a check for the amount of his indebtedness.

Needless to say, the Prince never turned up, nor got the Princess, who had indeed never heard of the manner in which her name was being used. The Prince mysteriously vanished, and inasmuch as all his victims were foreigners and ignorant of English procedure, he had plenty of time to get away to the United States, where he remained for some time under an assumed name.

Six months ago he was arrested, together with his English gentleman-in-waiting, and both were taken to Brussels with handcuffs upon their wrists by the police. The Prince's lawyers, finding that they could make no defence to the numerous charges of fraud brought and proved against him, put forward the plea that he was insane, and produced affidavits to show that for the last 200 years the majority of the members of this ducal and once sovereign family were lunatics. As stated, the Prince's father died in a madhouse at Neuilly, near Paris. His mother died in a fit of delirium, while her unmarried sister, the Princess Godoy, spent the major part of her life in an insane asylum at Valladolid. A great-grandfather, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins, died under restraint, and even the present head of the house, the old Duke, is publicly known as a kleptomaniac.

Under the circumstances and in view of the immense social and court influences possessed, in spite of their idiosyncrasy, by this great house, the Prince's acquittal on Saturday, on the ground of insanity, was a foregone conclusion, and these once reigning families who figure in Part II. of the Almanac de Gotha will therefore be spared the shame of seeing one of their number doing time as a convict.

"THE TURK AND ARMENIAN."

Lecturer Mangasarian Speaks Before Dr. Eaton's Congregation.

M. M. Mangasarian, lecturer before the Chicago Society of Ethical Culture, was introduced to the congregation of the Church of the Divine Paternity, Forty-fifth street and Fifth avenue, last night, by his pastor, Rev. Dr. Charles H. Eaton. Mr. Mangasarian, though an Armenian by birth, was educated in this country. He portrayed in a lecture last night, entitled "The Turk and the Armenian," the terrible condition under which his native land is struggling.

He said that the reason why the Turk took occasion to massacre the Armenians was because he hates everything Christian, and also because late Armenians of ideas and expressed the hope to be freed from the Moslem yoke.

The speaker, in conclusion, said, despite the most malignant persecution, Islam had never succeeded in drawing the cross out of his empire and that it was there to stay.

WRIGHT TALKS OF THEOSOPHY.

Tells of Reincarnation and Denies the Theory of Mental Heredity.

The first of a series of free lectures on "Theosophy" was given by Claude F. Wright, vice-president of the Theosophical Society, at the Harlem Opera House last night.

Mr. Wright explained the doctrine of reincarnation as accepted by believers in theosophy.

"The present mental condition of any person," he said, "is the result of previous lives. Every condition of life and phase of humanity is lived through by the soul until it has passed through and understands all of them."

He declared that the doctrine of heredity was wrong, and that, while traits of character are often handed down from generation to generation, it is by accident, and not rule. He did not attack the theory of physical heredity, but said mental attributes are not inherited.

Pound Unconscious in the Street.

Policeman O'Brien, of the Eldridge Street Station, found an unconscious man about 8:20 o'clock last night at Grand street and the Bowery. He was respectfully dressed, about fifty years old, five feet nine inches in height, apparently a mechanic.

A J. I. ambulance surgeon from Governor's Hospital said the man was suffering from concussion of the brain and took him to the hospital.

Raid on a Chinese Gambling House.

The police of the Eldridge Street Station last night raided the Chinese gambling house on the first floor of No. 30 Bayard street, and arrested the proprietor, Mah Yoh and five other Chinese. A number of Chinese coins, dice, cards and a book of rules governing the game of fan-tan were seized.



Manuel Garcia.

This man is a member of the Fire Department who did heroic work as a life saver at the boarding house fire in East Tenth street Saturday night.

BOLDT'S NEW SUMMER HOME.

The Waldorf Proprietor is Building Among the Thousand Islands.

Mr. George C. Boldt, the popular proprietor of the Waldorf Hotel, is erecting a home for himself among the Thousand Islands, on the St. Lawrence River, that

will compare favorably with any of the palatial summer residences of America.

The location of the residence will be on Heart Island, Alexandria Bay. The dwelling will be of modest pretensions, but the approach will be of magnificent proportions, and the entire building purposes alone will probably be not less than \$50,000. The ornaments which will be placed on the grounds, it is believed, will cost perhaps as much again.

The choice of the location, on Heart Island, shows most excellent judgment, for the spot is one of the grandest to be found even in that rarely beautiful region, and the opportunities for adding to the interest of the site, by the construction of a building, the mansion will stand at the head of the entering waters, which will lead to it. The passages of the water through which the visitor will approach it will be of a remarkably elaborate character. On leaving Alexandria Bay proper the visitor will pass through an opening of a construction of the peristyle order. On the extreme ends of this bulkwork will be placed two waterfalls of well-known sculptural art, of life size, which Mr. Boldt recently purchased from the estate of Mrs. Parson Stevens.

These are the group entitled "The Flight from Pompeii," and Story's "Cleopatra," and will stand at either end of the peristyle enclosed in glass. It is said that the bulkwork, \$30,000. The peristyle will be 175 residence ready for occupancy within a few weeks.

When approached on the subject of his new summer home yesterday, Mr. Boldt at first appeared to be slightly annoyed because his intentions had become known. He said it would appear to some as if he were seeking notoriety if he talked about his plans. He is very close to the Astor family, and has become quite prominent of late as a figure in upperdom.

JUDGE HENRY REED DEAD.

A Well-Known Philadelphia Jurist Expires in This City.

Judge Henry Reed, of the Coufret of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, died in the Grand Hotel, this city, yesterday morning. He came here last November to be treated by Dr. Francke H. Bosworth for catarrh, and was fast recovering when he was attacked three weeks ago with grip, which caused his death. Judge Reed was forty-eight years old. He was born in Philadelphia and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and admitted to the bar in 1868. He was appointed to the bench by Governor Patterson in 1887 to fill a vacancy and was elected in November of that year. He was a son of Henry Reed, who before his death was a professor in the University of Pennsylvania. The Judge was direct descendant of the first president of the University. He leaves a widow and five children.

Judge Reed was the author of several law treatises. He was a fine German scholar. His body will be taken to Philadelphia to-day and the funeral will occur on Wednesday.

GOTHAM'S GUESTS.

WALDORE—Mr. and Mrs. Beckford, Boston; J. G. Bennett, Pittsburgh; J. J. Coyne, Chicago; Mrs. S. H. Taft, Cincinnati; Mr. and Mrs. Winslow B. Ayer, Portland, Ore.

HOLLAND—W. E. van Johannesen, San Francisco; H. W. Treat, Chicago; C. A. Seizer, Cleveland; L. B. Radmore, London; Rensell Sewell, Chicago; Thomas B. Good, Virginia; H. G. Barnard, Chicago; C. S. Sawyer, Chicago.

IMPERIAL—Charles A. Stevens, Chicago; J. S. Deutch, Cincinnati; C. F. Smith, Indianapolis; J. M. Thompson, Chicago; L. A. Moore, Rochester; Charles McChesney, Baltimore; E. E. Reeder, Detroit; B. B. Johnson, Cincinnati; T. W. Pierce, Boston.

BRUNSWICK—R. M. Morris, Pittsburgh; W. P. Mercer, Chicago; J. A. Wright, Peoria, Ill.; A. Hudson, St. Maria, Canada.

GILSEY HOUSE—J. G. Malloy, San Francisco; J. Stiles, Saratoga; Mrs. C. A. Wheeler and Miss Wheeler, Baltimore; E. H. Sheldon, Elmira; E. C. Calkins, Philadelphia; C. C. Gerard, Philadelphia; C. B. Broome, Providence.

ST. JAMES—H. M. Bolt, Boston; M. T. Hunt, Cleveland; Mrs. R. C. Cheny, Chicago; Miss H. A. Hersey, Washington, D. C.; J. H. Robinson, Philadelphia; W. J. Burns, Columbus; Miss E. Wilson, Washington, D. C.

ALBEMARLE—W. T. Gibbs, Buckingham, Quebec; J. C. Ely, Providence; H. R. Jamieson, Philadelphia; J. W. B. Maynard, England.

HOPKINS—A. Katz, New Orleans; W. M. Hezel, St. Louis; S. D. Johnson, Frankfurt, Ky.; M. Salsbury, San Francisco; P. De H. Robinson, Cleveland; E. C. Hubbard, Chicago; G. H. Johnson, Niagara.

PARK AVENUE—Mrs. James Brown Potter, Kyrie Bellow, Miss Ella Bagley and Miss Mabel Handlett, Manchester; A. A. Tunnicliffe, Rochester.

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Surrounded by Flames, They Stuck to
Their Posts and Saved the Lives
of the Panic-Stricken
Actors.

The work of firemen Martin M. Coleman, John S. Mulster and Mannel Garcia, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, who distinguished themselves as life savers Saturday night during the fire in the actors' boarding house, No. 77 East Tenth street, were especially mentioned in Battalion Chief William Shaw's report of the fire. The report was sent to the Board of Fire Commissioners, and the brave men were highly praised.

Chief Shaw said yesterday that the fire originated in a room at the rear of the first floor hall. It went up the stairway and entered the front room on the third floor. The flames cut off from escape all the persons on the fourth floor and one man, James Finley, in a hall bedroom on the third floor.

Two thirty-five-foot ladders were used by the firemen. Fireman John S. Mulster rescued J. C. Welch from the third floor window. It was done at great risk, as at the time flames were bursting from the window over their heads, and Welch was partially overcome by heat and smoke.

At the same time a man and two women were clinging to the middle window of the fourth floor. When the ladder was raised, Mrs. Kling endeavored to get upon it before the firemen could reach her. She either jumped or fell, but was caught by Fireman Martin M. Coleman, who at the time was about six feet from the top of the ladder. The woman, who was a very heavy woman, to the ladder and in safety to the street.

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